

CARBON MONOXIDE

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that interferes with the delivery of oxygen in the blood to the rest of the body. It is produced by the incomplete combustion of fuels. It is emitted by sources such as space heaters, furnaces, woodstoves, gas stoves, fireplaces, water heaters, automotive exhaust, forklift operation, operation of machines, motors or equipment inside shops and warehouses.

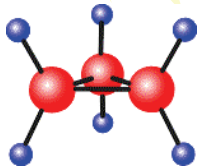


SIGNS & SYMPTOMS OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

The initial symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu. They include:

◦ Headache ◦ Fatigue ◦ Shortness of breath ◦ Nausea ◦ Dizziness

Seek medical treatment if you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning.



PREVENTION OF CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING

- ▶ Do not allow the use of gasoline or diesel powered engines, tools, or equipment inside the shop unless exhaust is vented outside.
- ▶ Consider the use of engines, tools, or equipment powered by electricity or air.
- ▶ Monitor employee exposure to CO in areas of possible high exposure.
- ▶ Educate workers about the sources and conditions that may result in CO exposure.
- ▶ Conduct a workplace assessment to identify potential sources of CO exposure.
- ▶ Do not run vehicles indoors without proper ventilation or venting of exhaust.
- ▶ Put warning signs on gas or diesel powered tools, machines or equipment if used inside buildings.
- ▶ Provide periodic inspections of all tools, vehicles, or equipment that may produce CO.
- ▶ Install CO detectors in areas which have the potential to produce carbon monoxide.



Safe Breathing is Safe Working